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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Germany (All Sectors of Berlin)

DATE DISTR. 28 June 1948

SUBJECT SED Forms Berlin Action Committees

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1.

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local district leaders was discussed. These would be activated upon prearranged signals, apparently related to the return of delegates from Warsaw.

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2.

The official position is that the currency change is creating a revolutionary situation in Berlin which must be used to bring about a Communist victory, i.e., the withdrawal of the western allies from Berlin. Since Russia no longer regards the western powers as allies, the Germans are not to be limited in the means they may employ against the west. The Russians will strain every sinew to solve the Berlin question, and need the help of the German revolutionary masses in the form of strikes and demonstrations. These are to be carried out in the western sectors of Berlin during the next few days in order to give the impression that the position of the western powers had been made untenable through the will of the German population rather than by means of Russian compulsion. The Russians must be acquitted of blame for the food shortages prevailing in Berlin.

3.

The western means of defense are considered slight. Capitulation must be forced promptly, lest western propaganda compel the Russians to abandon food and electricity sanctions and damage Soviet prestige and hinder Communist work.

4.

The general opinion is that loyal Communists are being called upon for extraordinary efforts which might result in winning all Germany for the Communist cause. A number of Berlin SED functionaries were instructed to stand by for orders.

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